

Amendment to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 14 with the following:

For example, in one embodiment embodiment, the invention provides an isolated peptide comprising the formula: X₁X₂X₃X₄X₅X₆X₇X₈ (SEQ ID NO: 32), wherein X₁ through X₈ are amino acid residues, wherein the peptide binds to VEGFR3, and wherein X₁ through X₈ are defined as follows: the amino acid residue at X₁ is a glycine residue or a conservative substitution thereof; the amino acid residue at X₂ is a tyrosine residue or a conservative substitution thereof; the amino acid residue at X₃ is a tryptophan residue or a conservative substitution thereof; the amino acid residue at X₄ is a leucine residue or a conservative substitution thereof; the amino acid residue at X₅ is a threonine residue or a conservative substitution thereof; the amino acid residue at X₆ is an isoleucine residue or a conservative substitution thereof; the amino acid residue at X₇ is a tryptophan residue or a conservative substitution thereof; and the amino acid residue at X₈ is a glycine residue or a conservative substitution thereof. The term peptide encompasses amino acid polymers, optionally including additional substituents as described below. However, the definition of peptide is intended to exclude naturally occurring polypeptide sequences that were described in the scientific literature before January 17, 2001 and that fortuitously share amino acid sequence identity with the peptide sequences described herein. Preferred peptides are from 6 to 100 amino acids in length, e.g., 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, ..., 97, 98, 99, or 100 amino acids in length. Although peptide sequences are often described herein as linear sequences from the amino-terminus to the carbozy-terminus, it is contemplated that the peptides may be made cyclic by the formation of a least one bond between non-adjacent amino acids. For example, in one variation, the peptides are formed with terminal cysteines which can be made to form an intramolecular disulfide bond. Thus, in one preferred embodiment, the peptide further comprises amino- and carboxy-terminal cysteine residues. For example, the peptide may comprise an amino acid sequence of the formula: CX₁X₂X₃X₄X₅X₆X₇X₈C (SEQ ID NO: 33), wherein X₁X₂X₃X₄X₅X₆X₇X₈ (SEQ ID NO: 32) are defined as above, and C represents cysteine. In an alternative embodiment, additional residues are attached to X₁ or X₈ within the terminal cysteines.